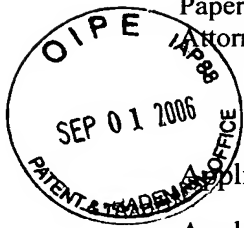


Application No. 10/540,364  
Paper Dated: August 29, 2006  
Attorney Docket No. 3988-051799

IFW 3677



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/540,364  
Applicant : Karl WEINHOLD  
Filed : June 23, 2005  
Title : COUPLING FOR A STEEL SPIRAL FLEXIBLE HOSE.  
Art Unit : 3677  
Examiner Name : Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No. : 3482  
Customer No. : 28289

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 29, 2006.

Bruce L. White  
(Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee)

Bruce L. White 08/29/2006  
Signature Date

This application is the United States National Phase of PCT Application No. PCT/EP2003/013890 filed December 8, 2003, claiming a priority date of December 23, 2003, corresponding to DE Application No. 102 61 557.8. The reference EP 1153236 is cited in the Applicant's specification on page 1. It is relevant for reasons discussed therein and an English-language abstract is provided herewith.

The February 16, 2006 Notice of Acceptance of Application under 35 U.S.C §371 and 37 C.F.R §1.494 or 1.495 indicates that copies of the references cited in the International Search Report (ISR), dated April 13, 2004 have been received by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The references cited in the ISR (EP 1153236 and DE 881287) have both been designated as "category A" references, indicating that these references are not considered to be of particular relevance. A courtesy copy of the ISR is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience.

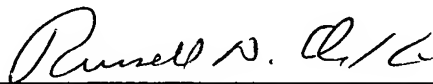
In addition, the German Patent and Trademark Office cited references DE 19907412 (corresponding to EP 1153236), DE 179711, JP 02245594, and DE 1913506 in an Office Action for the corresponding priority German application for the present case. Copies of the Office Action and the foreign references are provided herewith. English-language translations of DE 179711 and DE 1913506 are not available. However, these references are relevant for the reasons set forth in the German Office Action.

Application No. 10/540,364  
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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement as it is being submitted before a first Office Action on the merits. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM

By 

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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Sheet	1	of	1
Application Number	108540,364		
Filing Date	June 23, 2005		
First Named Inventor	Karl Weinhold		
Art Unit	3677		
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Attorney Docket Number	3988-051799		

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		DE 881287	06/29/1953	WILHELM	Abstract	
		DE 1913 506	03/17/1969	WILLIAM		
		DE 102 61 557.8-12	05/20/2003	WEINHOLD		
		DE 179711	12/21/1906	REIM		
		EP 1153236	11/14/2001	WEINHOLD	Abstract	
		JP 02245594 A	10/01/1990	HIROSHI et al.	Abstract	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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